



### What is “Pivot to Peace?”

Pivot to Peace is an opportunity for victims of stabbings and gunshot injuries, with the assistance of case workers and other community resources, to identify and address the factors in their lives that have put them at risk of violence, both physically and mentally. It is also an opportunity to help them develop a plan to stay safe, develop skills to manage conflict to prevent further injury or harm, respect differences, and to solve problems non-violently to make a change in their lives and communities.

### Who is Eligible to Participate?

- Anyone who has been injured by gunshot or stabbing and is living in Jefferson County.
- Anyone living with a high risk of violence.

### 96% Success Rate

Pivot to Peace caseworkers at Peace Ed have a 96% success rate with the 112 survivors of gunshots and stabbings we have served since April, 2016 in preventing retaliation and re-injury. Only four participants have been re-injured.

### How?

The hospital Emergency Departments, Trauma Departments, and Community Health Workers or other medical staff will work first to support families and help them maintain dignity and keep peace during this time of grief and trauma.

The hospitals will conduct an initial interview/discussion with potential participants and/or family members at the time of treatment or admission. If after learning what the program offers, and the potential participant is interested, the Project Manager with Peace Education’s Pivot to Peace program will be contacted to complete enrollment. Other community referrals are also accepted.

Once connected with a Case Worker, participants will receive hospital-linked violence intervention and community wraparound case management services, including counseling and mentoring for the participant and their families. This includes assistance in navigating community services and resources such as: job training, employment, parenting training, counseling (personal and family), GED and other educational services and support as identified or needed.

Participants, as well as their family members and friends, are also invited to participate in 20 hours of training in nonviolent conflict resolution offered by the Peace Education Program.

**REAL** (Realize and Elevate Your Ability to Live). This is an opportunity to work with the entire Pivot support team and other participants in a specific age range in school or the community to have open discussions about issues and challenges as a result of being injured.

## Did You Know?

Other programs in the country have found that with intervention it is possible to positively affect the participant's lives. The Department of Justice has been supportive, too. In 2012 it recommended that hospitals become more involved in violence prevention through counseling patients directly or connecting them with education, gang diversion programs, substance abuse treatment and social services.

Now, [about 30 hospitals across the country](#) — from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York — have developed similar initiatives.

Research shows that, if someone comes into a hospital suffering from a gunshot or stab wound and then, after leaving the hospital returns to the same environment, they are more likely to reappear in the Emergency Department with escalated injuries.

In addition, trends and anecdotal evidence suggest people at higher risk for violent injury are likely to face issues such as domestic violence, mental illness or substance abuse. They also often deal with other stress factors like poverty or inadequate housing.

*The University of California San Francisco found that people who had come to the hospital with a gunshot or stab wound and then participated in the intervention program were far less likely to get injured again after leaving. The number of patients returning with another violent injury dropped from 16 percent to 4.5 percent*

*The University of Maryland's statistics are similarly encouraging. Research found victims of violent injury who went through the program were 83 percent less likely to return because of another violent event when compared with those who did not participate*

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